



Bay Pines Volunteer News

Volume 1, Issue 2

Summer 2004

Memorial Day Ceremony, May 31, 2004 Bay Pines National Cemetery



The **Memorial Day Program** was held on Monday May 31, 2004 at 9:00 am at the Bay Pines National Cemetery. Congressman Bill Young was the guest speaker. This year the emphasis was on the WWII Veterans. Special Pins were given out to all WWII Veterans. There were approximately 2,000 visitors from the



Photos by Luana Mahone

For 22 plus years Voluntary Service has been responsible for coordinating the Memorial Day Program at Bay Pines VA National Cemetery.

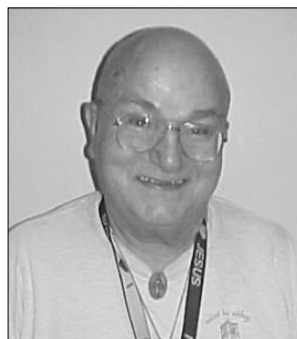
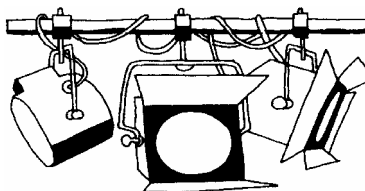
Our wreath bearer this year was Eleanor Purser Representative for the Women Marines Inc. Our Honor Guard was from the Clearwater High School Marine Corps Jr. ROTC, and our firing squad was from the Pinellas County Veterans Liaison Council. Chaplain Daniel L. Hummer gave the Invocation and Chaplain Thomas M. Dieter gave the Benediction. Gene Peeples led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance and the National Anthem was sung by Mara Famularo. David Miller, President, Pinellas County Veterans Liaison Council gave a Tribute to America and special remarks were made by Medical Center Director, Smith Jenkins, Jr.



Volunteer Spotlight

Bill German has worked as a volunteer in the Chaplain's office since 1969. He has 49,521 volunteer hours. He volunteers four hours a day including Saturday, Sunday and holidays. He says his volunteer job is awesome.

The Chaplain's office is located in Building 2 close to the Chapel. Bill answers the phone and sets up the Chapel for Mass. He says that working in the Chaplain's office has been a wonderful experience because he has met so many nice people and enjoys learning more about religion. Bill is from Ft. Smith, Arkansas, served in the US Navy and is a member of the VFW.



Bill now lives in the Bay Pines Apartments across the street from the Hospital so he can be close to his volunteer job.

Bill spent several years in the Domiciliary at Bay Pines and decided to volunteer for the hospital. He feels that this is his way of saying "Thank You."

Jim Hink, Reporter

From the Voluntary Service Office



To the volunteers of
Bay Pines VA Medical Center:
Greetings !!

It is a pleasure to be part of Voluntary Service, an organization comprised of men and women dedicated "to care for him, who shall have borne the battle." It is exciting to be a member of such a dedicated and committed group of individuals. On a daily basis you give of your time, talents, and resources to ensure that our Veterans receive quality health care. The positive impact of your presence is felt throughout the medical center. This fact became crystal clear during the recent Joint Commission Survey. The mission of the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare

Organizations is to continuously improve the safety and quality of care provided to the public through the provision of health care accreditation. The seven person survey team analyzed patient care employing a special technique called "tracer methodology." This technique follows a patient's care from admission through discharge. They closely analyzed each service and program as well as each staff person and volunteer involved in the patient's care. What did they find? Bay Pines VAMC provides great patient care.... **AND** the administrative surveyor of the inspection team stated, "Voluntary Service is doing an *Excellent Job!*" On behalf of the Bay Pines VA Medical Center and the Voluntary Service Staff we extend heartfelt thanks to each of you for a **Job Well Done !!**

Barbara L. Parker, CTRS
Acting Chief, Voluntary Service
Coordinator Therapeutic Recreation Services
(727) 398-9394

The VAVS Executive Committee



There are a number of very faithful volunteers who do not have representation at the VAVS Quarterly Committee Meetings. They are doing a fine job and should be made to feel that they are a part of the VAVS "team". If you should be one of these volunteers, please let us know by making contact with any member of the VAVS Executive Committee. You do

not have to be a Rep. or Dep. to serve on one of our active Committees. Also, you do not have to be an organizational Rep. or Dep. to attend the quarterly meetings. All are welcome. Your concerns and problems are very important to us here at Bay Pines.

Together, the VA staff and volunteers are accomplishing a lot of good things for our veterans. Keep up the good work! I, for one, am very proud of all of you, and it has been a privilege to serve our veterans with you this past year.

Charles L. Wisner, Chairman



ATTENTION All VAVS Representatives

If you did not receive a nominating form at the last Quarterly meeting, please advise one of our nominating committee members. Also, nominations will be accepted on the floor at our next **Quarterly Meeting, August 4th**. Executive Committee elections will be held November, 10, 2004.

Contact the Nominating Committee members:

Malcolm Moomey Bob Cannon Lois Petru
Tom Coleman Eleanor Purser

The following will not be running for Executive Committee positions:

Malcolm Moomey—Presently Vice Chairman
Don Denny—Member at Large
Barbara Pfohl—Treasurer, Retired

Anyone interested in running for an office on the Executive Committee may announce and speak at the next Quarterly meeting. A nominee must have served at least one full year as representative or deputy representative on the VAVS Committee and are elected for a two-year term.

Malcolm Moomey, Vice Chairman

Newsletter Committee

Thank you for all your wonderful, positive feedback about our first issue of the **Bay Pines Volunteer News**. How nice of you to respond and we appreciate your comments and suggestions.

Since one of our goals in establishing this Newsletter is to give our Bay Pines Volunteers recognition, this issue is filled with articles about extraordinary people who do extraordinary volunteer work. It's been lots of fun for our Newsletter Staff and myself to conduct interviews, take a few pictures and get to know you. Thank you for taking the time to talk with us.

In our next Fall edition we hope to have more interviews from our volunteers and where they work plus some interesting highlights from the Annual United Veterans Golf Classic. If you have anything to contribute, please let us know.



Send your suggestions, comments, articles and photos to the Newsletter Committee today. The **Bay Pines Volunteer News** is published Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter.

Pam Hinds, Chairman / Editor

If you would like to join our committee or for more information please contact:

Pam Hinds, Chairman / Editor

Bay Pines Volunteer News

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Jim Hink, Reporter

Shirley Hunt, Reporter

Lois Stearns, Reporter

Joan Cook, Project Assistant

"Appreciation can make a day, even change a life. Your willingness to put it into words is all that is necessary."

History of Bay Pines Medical Center Part II

• At the time of opening, there were 250 employees on duty, facilities to care for 159 patients and 350 Domiciliary members in addition to Regional Office activities servicing the entire State of Florida. Mr. Patrick Corr, a long-time resident of St. Petersburg, was among the first 16 veterans admitted to the Domiciliary section. The first patient admitted to the hospital section on March 20, 1933, was Mr. Charles Boone of Miami. By the end of the first year the Seaboard Air Line Railroad completed construction of the new station on Seminole Point. Railroad maps and schedules listed it as "Veterans Home, Florida." Engineering Service records indicate that Building 11 (Storehouse), Building 12 (Station Garage and Animal House), Building 13 (Laundry), Building 14 (Sewage Disposal Plant), The Main Entrance Gate, the water tower and the flag pole were completed before the end of

1933 at a total cost of approximately \$1,039,788. On June 15, 1934, the name of the new Home was officially changed to "Bay Pines, Florida." A short time later, this name was adopted by the railroad and the new post office. In 1935, a pavilion was erected for hydrotherapy treatment on the government's beach property at Madeira Beach.

- With increasing demands for beds, it was apparent that the 150-bed hospital was not sufficient and by March 1934, it was necessary to open a new ward in order to increase the bed capacity to 198.
- As the years passed, demands for services increased and funds were appropriated for additional services. The building program continued to expand and other buildings were completed: In 1935, the Recreation Building; in 1938, a 52-bed Domiciliary Barracks for women veterans; in 1939, an additional wing, Building 22, was added to the

hospital building increasing the bed capacity by 249 to a total of 444 beds, and in April 1940, an additional Domiciliary Barracks, (Building 37) was constructed adding 380 more beds. Combined with the new Domiciliary building, a new dining hall and kitchen were constructed for Domiciliary members. At this point in time, Domiciliary beds totaled 824 which combined with the 444 hospital beds, gave Bay Pines a total capacity of 1,268 beds.

- With large numbers of wounded and disabled veterans returning from World War II, the demands of the facility were increased to the point that space at Bay Pines was taxed to the limit, necessitating the removal of the Regional Office to provide additional space. On April 1, 1946, the Regional Office was transferred to the old Don Cesar building on Pass-A-Grille Beach which had been vacated by the Army Air Corps. *To be continued in the Fall Newsletter . . .*

Student Volunteer Program

The school year ended early this year and for many students their summer was spent volunteering at our facility in service to our veterans. Commencing in early June, 158 students ranging in age from 12-18 committed much of their summer vacation to learning about what it's like to work in a major medical facility. Many learned about future health careers opportunities, but all of them learned that the cost of our cherished freedom did not come cheaply.

The Bay Pines Summer Student Volunteer program is the largest in the state of Florida and one of the largest and most respected in the VA. This year, the students donated nearly 10,000 hours of their time with nearly 50% of them returning for their second, third and some for their fourth year.

Thanks to our many dedicated service organizations, the students will have the opportunity to share in \$2500 worth of savings bonds. These are the students that our student volunteer supervisors have chosen as some of our best. The largest award, \$1500 donated by the American Legion, will recognize the "Outstanding Student of the Year" who will represent our medical center for a \$10,000 scholarship offered through the James H. Park Memorial Youth Scholarship Award.

One of the most exciting enhancements to our Student Volunteer Program is the annual "essay contest". This year's theme is "What Freedom



Means To Me". Students are encouraged to submit essays with the opportunity to receive a \$200 US Savings Bond purchased by the Veterans of Foreign Wars. The winner essay will be published in the next VAVS newsletter. To conclude our Summer Program, the students visited Busch Gardens, for a fun filled day.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of the VAVS Service Organizations for your sponsorship, generosity and most importantly your support during our Summer Student Program. Without your support, this program could not be as successful as it is. It is always comforting to know that **"when the going gets tough, the VAVS Organizations get going!"**

all



Once again, a big **Thank You** to you.

Maureen M. Flynn
Voluntary Service Specialist
Student Volunteer Coordinator

Marlee Malone was born in Oakridge, TN and lives in Largo. She is studying music at the Pinellas County Center for Arts and plays a cello in orchestras. She volunteers in Radiology, Chemo Clinic and the Voluntary Office, 4-5 days a week/10 hours a day. She's been volunteering for 4 years and has 829 hours. She says



Ericka Hering has been a Student Volunteer at Bay Pines for three years. She has volunteered in patient escort, done filling in 3B and works in the VAVS office. Ericka says she enjoys listening to the Veterans stories and helping them. She also is learning how to file and how to help others. She volunteers 24 to 32 hours a week. As a Student Volunteer in the summer only has about 400 volunteer hours. She likes helping people and likes the people at Bay Pines Hospital. She was born in Clearwater and now lives in Seminole.



Blake Lusty has volunteered in the Pharmacy, Dialysis, Hospice, with Dr. Hakki in orthopedic surgery and in the VAVS office. Blake says his volunteer job is very rewarding to him. He likes helping people and says Bay Pines is an awesome place. He volunteers 45 hours a week during the summer and has a total of over 400 hours. Blake was born in St Petersburg and now lives in St Petersburg Beach. He also volunteers at the Food Pantry, Nursing Home and Beach Cleanup. He attends Admiral Farragut Academy where he won the Community Service award, Best Department, Head Master Distinguished Service and the Foreign Language award.



John Parapon was born in St. Petersburg and attends Osceola High School. He volunteers in 5-C and in Maintenance 9 hours a week and has a total of 331 hours. He says volunteering gives him a chance to give back to the community and is a great experience. He also plays baseball.



Magen Hughes was born in Ft. Bragg, NC and lives in St. Pete. She attends Boca Ciega High School and is a published author. She volunteers in the Voluntary Service office and as an escort, from 7 am to 5pm, 5 days a week and has 1,279 hours. She loves volunteering and feels veterans deserve knowing they are appreciated.



Student Interviews & Photos by Jim Hink, Reporter

Calendar of Events

August 2004

- 4 VAVS Quarterly Meeting 9:30 a.m.
- 6 Executive Committee Meeting
11:00 a.m. Voluntary Services
Conference Room
- 21 United Veterans Golf Classic
8:00 a.m. Quail Hollow Golf &
Country Club
Wesley Chapel, FL

*Long ago when men cursed and beat the
ground with sticks, it was called witchcraft...
Today, it's called golf.*

August 2004

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4 VAVS Quarterly Meeting	5	6 Exec Com Meeting	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 United Veterans Golf Classic Quail Hollow
22	23	24	25	27	27	28
29	30	31				

September 2004

September 2004

- 3 Executive Committee Meeting
11:00 a.m. Voluntary Services
Conference Room
- 6 Labor Day Observed
- 14 POW/MIA Day Cemetery (Cobb-Rain)
10:00 a.m.
- 17 Grand Opening—Gift Shop

A Well Planned Life ????

*Two women met for the first time since graduating from high
school. One asked the other, "You were always so organized
in school — did you manage to live a well planned life? "*
(continued below)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3 Exec Com Meeting	4
5	6 Labor Day	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14 POW/MIA Day	15	16	17 Grand Opening Gift Shop	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

October 2004

October 2004

- 1 Executive Committee Meeting
11:00 a.m. Voluntary Services
Conference Room
- 22 Volunteer Picnic (location TBA)

*"Yes," said her friend. "My first marriage was to a millionaire;
my second marriage was to an actor; my third marriage was to
a preacher; and now I'm married to an undertaker."
Her friend asked, "What do those marriages have to do with a
well planned life?"
"One for the money, two for the show, three to get ready, and
four to go."*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Exec Com Meeting	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11 Columbus Day	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22 Volunteer Picnic	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Bay Pines Radio Communications Center

Did you know there are two HAM operators on the space station? Did you know that most space shuttle and Russian astronauts are amateur radio operators? Did you know that the FCC created the Amateur Radio Service to fill the need for experts who provide emergency communications in times of need? Well here, in Building 37, at Bay Pines, we have our own group of dedicated volunteer experts who are avail-



George Baustert started building and using HAM radios when he was 15 years old, on a farm in western Pennsylvania. When George retired from the St. Petersburg Times, he and two other amateur radio operators, with help of the Chief of Police at Bay Pines, started their own radio club at the Bay Pines Medical Center in 1989. Originally they were located in

Building 2 on the third floor, in a corner office. George remembers when they had to "string wires between lights out in the parking lot to get started. We participated in hospital emergency drills and provided communication for the police department." Today the "radio room" and it's specialized equipment is located in Building 37, 2nd Floor.

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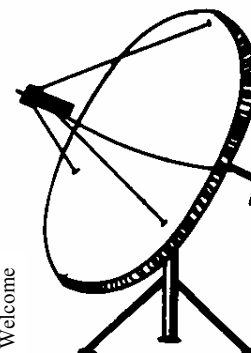
Come see us

After Hurricane Andrew, the Department of Veteran Affairs sent out a directive to all VA hospitals to include Amateur Radios in their emergency plans. The METRO (Metropolitan Repeater Association) is a volunteer sponsored "radio club" officially operating at Bay Pines Medical Center since 1993, designed to establish emergency communication to the public and Veteran centers. Each volunteer/operator has an amateur radio license. The VA service networks are scattered across the VA system in other hospital locations. Every day, at certain times of the day, communication is maintained with at least five different veteran centers in case of an emergency. If an emergency occurs, the radio club operators and networks establish communication with veteran hospitals, local authorities and national networks.

Presently there are 17 active, licensed, radio operators, ages ranging from 30 to 85. These radio operators put in their time in the radio room and also in other areas of the hospital. Below are pictured a few HAM's :

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Thank you



Welcome



Marvin "Frog" Dowdy was one of the other original radio operators that started the communications center at Bay Pines. He's originally from Rhine, Georgia and moved here in 1960. Frog served in the Navy during WWII on a destroyer, went into the Marines, was in the Air Force at McDill and also the Merchant Marines in Da Nang. Frog says he "used to live"

in the Radio Room but now comes in on Wednesdays, and other days volunteers through the DAV in the hospital.

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We are here



Phil Velders' interest in radio started back in the "spark gap days." His father worked at a national broadcasting station in New York and during WWII, helped Phil build his first radio receiver. Phil also started playing guitar and singing country and western music. He joined the Navy and became a radio operator on a tug boat. After the Navy, he worked in the US Post

Office and in his father's business. He heard about the volunteer program at Bay Pines and started entertaining the Veterans at the nursing home. Phil volunteers in Escort Services, as a Red Coat and in other areas of the hospital. In fact, you'll probably see Phil all around the Bay Pines campus but you can generally find him in the Radio Room on Fridays. He still maintains his radio license and is an active radio operator. Phil is always helping Veterans and wants more Veterans to become radio operators.

If you are interested in participating in the METRO Radio Club, please contact George Baustert, President, METRO Radio Club at 727-541-2895, E-Mail: w3bl@ij.net (www.qsl.net/w4mra). All Veterans and volunteers are welcome. No matter what age, gender or physical ability, you could become a ham radio operator. In a real emergency situation there would be no electricity – no TV, no phone, no computer BUT you can be sure, here at Bay Pines, our Amateur Radio Operators are establishing communication.

W4BPH signing off.



Contributed by Phil Velders, Pam Hinds, Editor

Saturdays With Captain Bill

Bill Mansfield, VAVS Representative for the Destroyer Escort Sailor Association, started the Therapeutic Recreation Patient Fishing Program at Bay Pines 16 years ago for Veteran patients. Every Saturday morning, he has dedicated his time and talent bringing patients together behind the nursing home to go fishing at the "cut." They set up rods and equipment and even have doughnuts for the patients. Bill has also been successful in organizing donations from other service organizations to pay for the fishing equipment.

Bill was in the Coast Guard for 20 years and then went to work for the VA Hospital in West Roxbury, Massachusetts. He retired from the VA Hospital in 1978 and moved to Florida. Bill has been married to his wonderful wife, Ruth for the past 61 years. Ruth has been volunteering at Bay Pines for 22 years and works with the Chief of Medicine. Bill and Ruth have three children and three GREAT grandchildren.

Bill celebrated his 86th birthday on June 7th



and also retired from the Fishing Program the same day. We're going to miss those Saturday mornings with Bill but the Fishing Program will continue.



And for someone as devoted as Bill, we know we'll see him soon volunteering somewhere else at Bay Pines. Thank you for your inspiring volunteer service.

Pam Hinds/Editor

Meet Our Great Volunteers



Joan Cook and her family moved to Florida many years ago from Pennsylvania and always lived close to the VA. Joan has been a member of the DAV Ladies Auxiliary for over thirty years and is a very active VAVS Representative. Her husband was a disabled vet and was instrumental in organizing the Seminole DAV Chapter which was named after a Seminole Veteran who gave his life in Vietnam. The Seminole chapter has now merged with Clearwater. In 1990 Joan was the State DAV Ladies Auxiliary Commander and several years after that she and her husband shared State Chaplain positions and traveled all over the State of Florida. Joan also worked at Bayfront as an LPN. When her husband passed away in 2001, she decided to volunteer at Bay Pines because she was very grateful for the care that her husband received. Joan volunteers Wednesday and Friday mornings and fills in wherever and whenever she is needed. Joan visits new hospital patients and distributes lap robes which are made by wonderful nice ladies that live in the area. Joan is the State Department, DAVA Representative and receives monthly donations throughout the State for Recreation Therapy, Make a Wish program, Student Volunteers and Hospice. Joan says that she really loves volunteering at Bay Pines and will continue volunteering for as long as she can.



Al Molinari represents the VFW and volunteers in the sign in office close to the canteen. Al says he meets many nice people and has made a lot of new friends. Al was born in Massachusetts and now lives in Seminole. He has been a volunteer for 21 years and volunteers 6 hours a day and has over 16,931 hours. Al volunteers because it gives him something to do and he enjoys meeting nice people.



Lois Stearns has been a volunteer for approximately 10 years, accumulating over 5,000 volunteer hours. She's the VAVS rep for the VFW Ladies Auxiliary and volunteers in the outpatient pharmacy. Her duties include scanning prescriptions that are sent to South Carolina to be filled and packs prescriptions to be mailed from Bay Pines outpatient pharmacy. Lois also works in the Lab transporting specimens to the main lab. Her volunteer activities include attending VAVS meetings, Member at Large for the Executive Committee and Reporter for the Bay Pines Volunteer News. Lois says volunteering at Bay Pines is a very rewarding experience.



Walter Skeldon has volunteered in Escort Services for the past 18 years. He works 12 hours a week and has 5,697 volunteer hours. Walter was born in Buffalo, NY and has lived in Largo since 1947. He retired from the railroad. He says he really feels like he is helping Veterans when he can assist them with their wheelchairs. Hobbies are carpentry and writing books.



Jackie Vecchiome volunteers as a secretary for the Homeless Coordinator. The Homeless Coordinator's office is located in the Domiciliary building. She represents the American Legion Ladies Auxiliary. She says her volunteer job is wonderful and she loves it. Jackie was born in New York City and now lives in Seminole. She works 12 hours a week and has approximately 659 volunteer hours. Jackie says volunteering is very satisfying and makes her feel good.



Ruth Omansky volunteers as a clerk in the Library near the outpatient clinic. She helps veterans look up medication and other medical information. Ruth represents the Jewish War Veterans Auxiliary. She loves her job and has approximately 893 hours. She has volunteered for 4 years and works 4 hours a week. Ruth's husband was a disabled veteran and loved Bay Pines Hospital. She says she wants to do for others what others have done for her husband.



Melvin Kasner volunteers in the patient education library which is near the outpatient clinic. He was born in Cedar Rapids, Iowa and for the last 34 years has lived in St Petersburg. Melvin was in the Army and is a member of the Vietnam Veterans of America. He retired from the restaurant business. He volunteers 8 hours a day, 5 days a week and has approximately 3,553 volunteer hours.



Ruth Eiseman has been volunteering in the outpatient pharmacy for about 14 years and has over 2,600 volunteer hours. She volunteers on Wednesdays and packs drugs into individual bags for patients. She rechecks prescriptions to make sure the correct prescription goes into the correct bags. She puts the bags on the shelves in numerical order and places others in the refrigerator. Ruth says that everyone is doing a good job and loves Bay Pines Medical Center. She says you shouldn't believe everything you read in the newspaper about Bay Pines. Ruth is the VAVS rep for the Jewish War Veterans, Ladies Auxiliary and hopes more volunteers join Bay Pines.

Our Escort Coordinator

Agnes Washington began her work career at Bay Pines VA Medical Center in June 1973. In her first position, as a housekeeper's aid / bed making, she cleaned units for the incoming patients and also worked in the uniform room. After the new hospital was built, she became a regular housekeeper but then injured her back. She also worked in eligibility, records, laundry, and as a timekeeper and operator. Agnes has been the Escort Coordinator for the past six years. She manages a group of volunteers and makes sure patients are transported to their appointments in a timely

manner. Employees, patients and volunteers call Agnes to request an escort to push patients in wheelchairs or stretchers. Also escorts transport charts, specimens and information to different departments. Each escort is accompanied by a piece of paper which indicates the pertinent information such as patient's name and where the patient is going for their appointment. All escorts receive safety and wheelchair training. She says that this time of the year, escort service is always short of



volunteers until October but she is very happy that the summer Student Volunteers have been available to help out.

Agnes says she enjoys the comradeship with the volunteers and has learned so much from them. When she's not working at Bay Pines, Agnes loves to travel to Georgia and around the United States and stays busy raising her granddaughter who attends Azalea Middle School. Agnes says it's been very gratifying working at Bay Pines but she's looking forward to retirement.

Pam Hinds, Editor

The Van Transportation Group

The Volunteer Van Transportation program was started in 1995 through donations by area DAV chapters. Bob Cannon was one of the original van drivers. Transportation started with one van which held 15 veterans and traveled the entire Pinellas County. As coordinator for the van program, Bob Cannon used his own cell phone for emergencies and traveled 18+ hours and 250 – 300 miles a day. He had three runs in the morning and three in the afternoon.

Due to the vast numbers of veterans, it was soon discovered that it would be impossible to honor all requests for transpor-



tation. The vans now transport exclusively geriatric, psychiatric day treatment patients.

Presently there are two vans, equipment with cell phones for emergencies, which belong to the Medical Center – one van to run the north county and the other for the

south county. Between four drivers, vans transport approximately thirty people each day. Besides on-call drivers, Bob Cannon, Gene Adkins, Robert Day and Don Denny are regular drivers who have been driving for the past five years. The Van Transportation program has now expanded to nine counties, each county supplying their own vans and drivers.

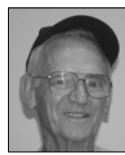
As of this year, Bob has been awarded 10,000 "driving" hours but who's counting! Bob wants all of you to come over to the transportation office, which is next to Voluntary Services and visit sometime.

*Contributed by Bob Cannon
Volunteer Van Driver*

More . . . Great Volunteers



Sam Farina has been a volunteer for over 15 years. He's volunteered in fire and safety, prescription mailouts; was one of the first van and shuttle drivers and now has been a Red Coat for 8 years. Sam is originally from Niagara Falls, NY and came to Florida in 1980. In New York, Sam educated the mentally and physically handicapped. He also taught prisoners different trades and job skills at the Arizona State Prison. He was the President of the Lewiston Fire Company and Member of the Town of Niagara Police Department in New York. Since he's moved to Florida, he has worked in security and has been a condo manager. Now that Sam's retired, he devotes most of his time volunteering and traveling with his wife Susan who just recently retired from the City of St. Petersburg. Sam has been the Past Commander for the DAV 91 and past President of the Korean War Vets Suncoast Chapter 14 where he is still known as the "brick man." You can generally see Sam wearing his red coat, **always** willing to help our veterans on Wednesday's and Friday's in the outpatient area. And... if you don't know where to find something, just ask Sam. He'll be glad to tell you where it is *or where to go* !!!



William Tyler has volunteered as the Regional Shuttle driver for the past five years. Bill is originally from Quincy, Massachusetts and moved here in 1958. He started working for Anheuser Busch as an electrician and retired in 1989. He lives in Seminole and has one daughter and son who live in Seminole. Bill has two dogs – a Yorkie and a miniature Dachshund. He also likes to bowl and attends church regularly. As a shuttle driver, Bill transports people anywhere on campus but his priority is the Regional Office. He says about volunteering, "I find it very rewarding personally – every once and awhile you meet someone who touches you and you know why you're here."

FLAG MOMENT The flag of the United States should be flown daily from sunrise to sunset in good weather from public buildings, schools, permanent staffs, and in or near polling places on election days. The flag should never touch anything beneath it, nor should it ever be carried flat or horizontally. Watch for the first signs of fraying. Flags can be trimmed and re-hemmed. The US Government expects an outdoor flag to last approximately 90 days in good weather.



2004 United Veterans Annual Golf Classic

Quail Hollow Golf & Country Club

Wesley Chapel, Florida

Date: Saturday, August 21st, 2004



During the Korean War, **Eddie Koh**, a fifteen year old South Korean boy, fought side by side with our United States Marines until the cease fire in 1953. Even though he was left at home in Korea, three Marines returned to the States and remembered their very good friend, Eddie. These three Marines arranged for their young friend to come to the United States and go to school to further his education. After graduation, Eddie enlisted in the United States Army and was sent back to South Korea to assist the American troops. Upon completion of his military service, Eddie became an American citizen and found his way into numerous business ventures. Ten years ago, Eddie bought golf property in Wesley Chapel now known as Quail Hollow Golf & Country Club which is recognized as a prime golf course and real estate development.

Eddie has never forgotten the American soldiers with whom he fought side by side in Korea, especially those three men who later fought for his chance to start a new life. In 1995 Eddie sponsored, what is now an annual event, a Korean War Veterans Appreciation Day at Quail Hollow. In 1998 Eddie hosted an open house golf tournament at Quail Hollow in which all proceeds went towards the Korean War Veterans Memorial Trust Fund. The Florida Korean War Veterans Memorial located in Tallahassee, Florida is now complete, symbolic of 316,000 Floridians who served during the Korean War, 550 of whom made the ultimate sacrifice.

This year, thanks to Eddie Koh, the Bay Gulf Credit Union (\$2,000 platinum sponsor) in association with Partnership for American Veterans (PAV), we are able to make this annual tournament possible. This sponsored event is in celebration of 71 years and 245,000 hours of dedicated service by our outstanding volunteers to America's veterans. All of the proceeds will be used for the benefit of the Annual Volunteer Recognition Program and Luncheon that honors our volunteers for their dedicated years of service to our veterans.

The fee for the United Veterans Golf Classic is \$65 per person which includes green's fees, golf carts and the tournament luncheon. Application for the golf tournament is limited to the first 120 paid players. Entry forms are available in the Voluntary Service office and should accompany a check payable to **Partnership for American Veterans (PAV)** in the amount of \$65. Hole sponsorships are available for \$100 and checks should be made payable to Partnership for American Veterans (PAV). Deadline for entry is August 14th, 2004 (Entry fee non-refundable after 8/14/04).

If you are mailing your checks and entry forms, please use this mailing address:

United Veterans Annual Golf Classic

P. O. Box 629

Bay Pines, FL 33744

2004 United Veterans Annual Golf Classic

Four-Person Scramble with Shotgun Start @ 8:00 A.m. --- Saturday, August 21st, 2004

Quail Hollow Golf & Country Club

6225 Old Pasco Road

Wesley Chapel, FL

For further information call: (727) 398-9394 or FAX (727) 398-9593



Partnership for American Veterans